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AW.

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 7744.0009

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
John RAUSER et al.)
Application No.: 09/404,597) Group Art Unit: 2177
Filed: September 24, 1999) Examiner: Luke S. Wassum
For: OPTIMIZED RULE BASED)
CONSTRAINTS FOR)
COLLABORATIVE FILTERING)
SYSTEMS)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants hereby submit this response to a Restriction Requirement mailed September 20, 2002, the period for response which extends through October 20, 2002. Further to the telephone conversation on September 19, 2002, Applicants thank the Examiner for noting and correcting the typographical error with respect to claim numbering.

In the Restriction Requirement mailed May 6, 2002, the Examiner required the election of one of the following groups of claims:

- Group I - Claims 1-12 and 16-27 alleged by the Examiner to be drawn to a method of filtering items based on a constraint filter and a recommendation filter, classified in Class 707, subclass 3.
- Group II - Claims 13-15 alleged by the Examiner to be drawn to a method of optimizing a query plan, classified in claims 707, subclass 5.

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Application No.: 09/404,597


Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, claims 1-12 and 16-27.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By: _____


James J. Boyle
Reg. No. 46,570

Dated: October 18, 2002

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